

**OPINION**

Word Alive.....P-2

The Ilocano Educator..P-2

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**THESE 20-MAN STRONG BRAVE WARRIORS OF LIGHT** (in photo) are back to home base in Ilocos Norte after their mission accomplished in the Typhoon Odette-torn Southern Leyte in the Visayas region where (for many weeks) they helped restore fallen electric poles, transmission lines, and other related power problems in the devastated area. For a job well done, these 20-strong INEC Warriors of Light gained wide admiration and congratulatory messages from multiple sectors. (Photo courtesy of INEC Info Officer Noel Andres & Justine Allado/text by Sentinel)

\* \* \* \* \*

# “Backliners” praised for food production

● **PGIN earmarks P1.3B fund for the agri-sector**

“Gusto ko pong magpasalamat sa lahat ng ating magsasaka, mangingisda, mga livestock growers, at mga partners natin sa kooperatiba-ang ating mga COVID-19 “backliners” na tumutulong upang may sapat na pagkain ang bawat pamilyang Ilocano.”

Ilocos Norte Governor Matthew Marcos Manotoc made the remarks in Tagalog during his State of the Province Address (SOPA) delivered before a limited crowd held in front of the Provincial Capitol, Laoag City last January 11.

The Governor praised the Ilocano farmers, fisherfolks, livestock growers, and members of agriculture cooperatives for ensuring food sufficiency in the province amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

(Pls. turn to page 3)

## ₱1B Marcos stadium renovation project nears completion

LAOAG CITY (Jan. 14) – Barring any unforeseen event, the renovated Pres. Ferdinand E. Marcos Stadium near the university and school belt in this city will soon reopen its gate to the public especially to

the athletes and sports buffs.

Ilocos Norte Governor Matthew Marcos Manotoc disclosed on Thursday (January 13) about the near completion of the PHP1

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### THIS WEEK'S NEWS IN A FLASH

by Multimedia Report

**Comelec-I.Norte: Ex-mayor Tomas Torralba quits from mayoral race in Badoc, I. Norte.** No further details of his withdrawal. Comelec says his name already printed in the official ballots for 2022 local elections  
===

**Cop's wife shoots herself in Adams, I.N. using hubby's service firearms.** New PD condoles the family and gives aid  
===

**Man, 80, found dead at a carabao mud pit in Dingras, I.Norte.** PNP rules out foul play in the incident  
===

**Badoc checkpoint holds vice mayoral aspirant and aide for possessing 14 Caliber .40 ammo.** Suspects freed after posting bail  
===

**Girl and sibling steal neighbor's cash money in US dollar & peso at Sinait, I.Sur.** Suspects admit their guilt during confrontation--PNP  
===

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Ilocos Sentinel Newspaper is published weekly in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte since Year 2006. It is widely circulated in Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley, CAR and the entire Philippines. The clan Guiangs behind this paper are the proud direct descendants of DON MARTIN GUIANG, founder of the town of Paoyay, Ilocos Norte and first chief executive of Paoyay town (1701-1704).

*Guest Editorial:*

**DOH to continue providing healthcare workers benefits in 2022**

The Department of Health (DOH) announced that the provision of COVID-19 benefits to Health Care Workers (HCWs) will continue in 2022, in recognition of their valiant and untiring efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The DOH was allocated Php 1.08 Billion in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) 2022 for the grant of sickness and death benefits to HCWs who contracted COVID-19 in the line of duty. The DOH, together with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), will be issuing a Joint Administrative Order on the guidelines for the grant of benefits so that HCWs may get these benefits faster and easier.

In line with President Rodrigo R. Duterte's pronouncement that the HCWs should be given higher Special Risk Allowance (SRA) in 2022, commensurate with their risks, the DOH will be implementing the One COVID-19 Allowance (OCA) this year. Benefits, which have been previously enjoyed by a limited number of HCWs — Active Hazard Duty Pay for Public Health Workers; Meals, Accommodation and Transportation Allowance; and the Special Risk Allowance, for HCWs directly catering or exposed to COVID-19 patients — shall be discontinued and replaced by a more inclusive and responsive OCA.

The OCA shall be provided to all health workers involved in COVID-19 response in line with the National Action Plan COVID-19 strategy of Prevention, Detection, Isolation, Treatment, Rehabilitation, and Vaccination (PDITR+) strategy. Further, the allowance shall be equitably distributed to HCWs, taking into account their COVID-19 exposure classification — this considers the type of health facility where they are assigned, work setting, and nature of work. Those deemed classified to be high risk will be eligible for Php 9,000.00 per month while those classified as moderate and low risk shall be given Php 6,000.00 and Php 3,000.00 respectively. The OCA shall also be pro-rated.

The DOH has issued Administrative Order No. 2022-0001: Guidelines for COVID-19 Risk Exposure Classification, which will be disseminated in order to have a national database of health workers involved in the COVID-19 response and their respective risk classification. The funds for HCWs benefits is For Later Release (FLR) and thus, will be approved by DBM once all documentary requirements have been fulfilled. The Department, therefore, calls on all public and private health facilities to comply and cooperate to ensure that guidelines are properly reiterated to our HCWs to prevent any miscommunication and fastrack the implementation of the OCA.

Further, the DOH is working tirelessly with the DBM to expedite the issuance of the OCA grant guidelines.

Lastly, a budget of Php 50 Billion, with Php 7.9 Billion as part of FLR, has been allocated in the 2022 GAA for the provision of One COVID-19 Allowance. However, considering the expected high number of eligible health workers, the DOH is constantly in coordination with the Department of Finance (DOF) to ensure that the remaining Php 42 Billion currently lodged as unprogrammed funds will be prioritized to ensure the implementation of the OCA until the state of national emergency has been lifted.

Indeed, the government is making effort to compensate the hardworking HCWs in the country.

As for the rest of the residents, we do our part by valuing and respecting them in every way since they care for all Filipinos, when we are sick. *(with report from DOH)*



**WORD ALIVE**

by Fr. Bel R. San Luis, SVD

**Clinging to our faith despite adversities**

Once there was a professor in theology at a Catholic university. On his first day, he asked the students to write down what their notion of Jesus was.

While going over the papers later, the professor was amused by the many curious answers. There was one that particularly caught his attention.

The student wrote: "Jesus was a great P-R-O-F-I-T. He meant "prophet." It wasn't surprising because when the teacher checked the course he was taking, it was Business Administration!

Indeed, Jesus was a great prophet (God's spokesperson). He was teaching in the synagogue "as one who had authority" and his listeners were "amazed at his teaching" (Mk 1,22).

The reason is because unlike the prophets before him who would preface their remarks with the phrase: "Thus says the Lord God," while Jesus would

declare, "I SAY TO YOU." Jesus spoke on his own.

\*\*\*

And in today's gospel, after reading the scroll of the prophet Isaiah wherein it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor, he sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free." After unrolling the scroll, Jesus openly said: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing"(Luke 1, 21). He declared categorically before all the people that he was the Messiah, the Redeemer.

\*\*\*

Christ's authority was transmitted to and dwells in the Church today. He said unequivocally before leaving the earth, "As the Father has sent me, I also send you." Jesus knew how to share his divine power like the power to

*(Note: Fr. San Luis hails from Laoag City. He served as President of Divine Word College of Laoag in the 1980s. His new turf is the Christ The King Seminary in Quezon City. Thank you, Father Bel for sharing your weekly column for the Ilocos Sentinel.—Editor)*

forgive sins or heal the sick and the dying as some saints do, like Peter, the apostle, and the stigmatist Padre Pio.

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We Christian followers, especially Filipinos, have a staunch faith in Christ.

However, there are moments and instances when we doubt or even lose faith in him.

Recall the doctor-couple who were active frontliners in a hospital in Cebu City. Because of their active caring and indefatigable healing of coronavirus patients, both were contaminated. The wife eventually passed away and husband followed after a few days. He didn't know that she had passed off ahead.

One of the siblings said with a heavy heart, "We may never understand why God had taken them both." \*\*\* Recently, the super typhoon Odette cut a swath of destruction in the central

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**THE ILOCANO EDUCATOR**

by Eduardo Teodoro "Jet" B. Ramos, Jr.

**Academic break: what we all need the most at this time**

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More than 15 days have passed since we all ushered in another new year: 2022, year of the Water Tiger. In just a very short span of time, we have seen so many COVID-19 cases rise (as of today, January 15, we have more than 33,000 cases and counting), especially in our country. Though there are many medical experts who say that the currently raging Omicron variant is less virulent than previous strains such as the Delta variant, we all cannot be as reckless as we have been during the pre-pandemic era.

Only recently, the Department of Education has been featured in the headlines for its staunch refusal to permit certain regions with increasing COVID-19 cases to have an academic break. In their usual defensive, authoritarian tone and stance, certain officials of the department—most especially the Grand Dame of DepEd H.E. Leonor Magtolis-Briones—have adamantly called out many teachers (and students) who have been requesting for an academic break.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED), led by its indefatigable yet sometimes unreasonably stubborn chairperson J. Prospero "Popoy" de Vera III, also followed suit, reasoning that since universities and colleges (at least some of them) are about to have their academic break; hence, the COVID-stricken tertiary education agency honcho did not consider the situation of the universities and colleges that were still having their classes as of press time.

It took Manila mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno"

Domagoso common sense and empathy to declare a week-long health break and suspension of classes across all educational institutions—public and private—and what he did was commendable and quick. However, one recalcitrant academic executive—Dr. Ester Albano-Garcia of the University of the East—did not follow Mayor Domagoso's order, claiming that only CHED has the authority to suspend classes.

My God, Dr. Garcia has no empathy, compassion, and common sense, judging by her defiance of Mayor Domagoso's order! This so-called intellectual giant is an irony in the flesh for she has not used her wits by not complying with the mayor's order!

Oriental Mindoro and Metro Manila followed suit for DepEd has just declared that January 15 to 22 would be a health break for students and teachers alike, citing the incessant rise in COVID-19 cases due to the Omicron variant.

At least and at last, DepEd has come to its senses! The Briones-dominated agency has finally woken up to the fact that we all need a health break, which is also technically considered an academic break.

We cannot deny the fact that whether we are teachers or students (or both, as in my case), we all need to unwind from the hustle and bustle of distance learning, which is even more taxing and onerous than actual face-to-face learning.

*(Pls. turn to page 3)*

**Disclaimer:** The views and opinions expressed in this Commentary Section are solely owned by the individual columnists and authors and do not absolutely reflect the Ilocos Sentinel's position. We are pleased to accept and publish any written reaction to all published articles herein. Please send thru e-mail, text, and postal mail with your name and address. Letters may be edited for clarity and space.

# PGIN: P700M lion's share goes to healthcare system

Ilocos Norte's health system has received a lion's share of the province's 2022 annual budget to the tune of nearly P700 million funds as part of the Provincial Government's efforts to achieve its vision of a "healthier" province, Governor Matthew Marcos Manotoc has announced during his State of the Province Address (SOPA) delivered last January 11.

In his SOPA, the Governor enumerated the following financial outlays:

More than Php 650 million was appropriated for infrastructure, equipment, and medical supplies of the Governor Roque B. Ablan Sr. Memorial Hospital (GRBASMH), and the district hospitals of Dingras, Bangui, Piddig, and the Doña Josefa Edralin Marcos District Hospital in Marcos town.

Likewise, Php 35 million was allocated for the purchase of response logistics for anti-COVID and other infectious

diseases such as medicines, emergency medical equipment, personal protective equipment, and other supplies for frontline workers, Dengue and COVID testing kits, and vaccines.

Even before the pandemic, the PGIN had further improved the said six provincial health facilities pouring in over Php 291 million during the past two years. The timely facility was the established medical oxygen

refilling plant building at GRBASMH. On infra, PGIN wisely spent P212 million for more equipment and supplies as well as the hiring of medical professionals.

On the other hand, as a pioneer in offering mental health services, the PGIN had apportioned Php 1 million this year for various mental health activities, such as art therapy sessions, mental health break camps, and psychosocial first

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## Backliners.....(page 1)

The agriculture sector has been Gov. Marcos Manotoc's priority, addressing in the past year the challenge of increasing productivity and profitability through the provision of appropriate infrastructures such as farm to market roads, enhanced irrigation systems, and equipment and agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, soil conditioners, and sprayers.

As one of the powerhouses of agriculture in the country, he likewise looks forward to the operations of an Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System in Ilocos Norte, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture (DA).

"We take pride in being chosen as one of the five pilot provinces in the Philippines to lead extension services in agriculture and fisheries. The Ilocos Norte Agriculture and Fisheries extension system, as it's known, will strengthen linkages by sharing science-based knowledge and technologies with farming and fishing communities," Gov. Marcos Manotoc said.

On the other hand, he also highlighted the efforts of the Provincial Government in curbing the African Swine Fever (ASF):

"After being one

of the few remaining ASF-free provinces, ASF posed a crisis to our livestock sector. Much like COVID-19, we had to be on the ground immediately to contact trace and stem the infections. We provided relief packs for those who were (economically) affected, gave sprayers and disinfectants, facilitated their Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation and DA indemnifications or payouts, allotted almost Php 14 million for those who were uninsured, and provided alternate livelihoods. We are also hopeful that the establishment of an Animal Quarantine Station at the Ilocos Norte-Cagayan Valley boundary will help secure the income of our hog growers."

His agricultural action points for this year include the shift to high-value crops, full-service assistance from pre-planting to marketing, agri-business and product processing, improving irrigation and soil restoration, and leveling up mechanization and technologies.

By 2022, the Provincial Government allocated Php 1.3 billion funds for agricultural needs from the Tobacco Excise Tax share of Ilocos Norte. (Edison Justin B. Deus, PGIN-CMO)

## The Ilocano Educator.....(page 2)

Why do we need an academic break, my friends?

Here are ten reasons why we need a health break-cum-academic break:

1. Our bodies and minds need rejuvenation. Whether we are students or teachers, we all need a break because we have to replenish our brain cells and our energy reserves. We cannot claim that just because we are into distance learning now, we are indefatigable. Remember, we are human and no one has the right to rake us over hot coals just because we need a break. Even machines break down, too.

2. Too many activities wear down and tear apart our bodies and souls. It is a must for us to slow down when needed, especially for our youth and our seniors. Too many cooks spoil the broth, so it follows that too much on our calendar pushes us too far. Let us focus only on the urgent activities and devote our breaks to productive activities or to doing nothing even for just a few hours.

3. We need to sign off momentarily. It is about time that we do what we used to do before the advent of the internet: stopping to smell the flowers, enjoying nature, interacting with real faces in real places, and doing household chores. Signing off momentarily would not hurt because we get to be spared from the agony caused by social media.

4. Online classes and online meetings more tedious and strenuous than face to face learning. Let us all admit that online modes of interaction, especially work meetings, are nerve-wracking and wreak havoc on our psyches. Due to increased work demands, our superiors seem to forget that we all have boundaries and breaking points.

5. We need to have time for ourselves and our loved ones. Me-time is never a bad thing nowadays, so it should not be an issue to all of us. We have been doing it and such is what we need to do in order to rediscover ourselves. We also need to be with our families because they are the prime reasons for our temporal existence and our emotional resilience.

6. Exercise must be part of the equation, so it must never be out of the question. Physical activity not only makes us sweat but also burn calories and rejuvenate our bones and muscles. It helps us greatly in terms of our emotional, mental, and social health because we become more confident and more deliberate in our decision making processes. We also get to become more mobile. Exercise must not be limited only to going to the gym. Any strenuous or light physical activity counts as exercise as long as it is done consistently.

7. We have to rediscover our purpose. Out of weariness, we sometimes tend to doubt ourselves and our purpose as students and/or teachers (most especially). We need to rejuvenate so that we can think more clearly about our mission in life.

8. Our gadgets need a break. Gadgets break down when used constantly and without pause. Period.

9. We must restore our zest for life. Whenever we toil hard, we fail to realize that our passion for living and for serving others tapers off. When we take an academic break, we all forget all our troubles momentarily. Hence, we get to think more clearly and to live more fully.

10. Mental wellness is at risk nowadays. We are all prone to depression and anxiety due to the current pandemic, hence the need for an academic break-cum-health break. We cannot afford to break down in the middle of our tasks, so we need to stop, think, open our eyes to the bright side

of our current situation, and pursue self-care.

There you have it, ladies and gentlemen! The reasons why we all need a break are clear, so we must take advantage of its benefits to us!

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GUESS WHAT, GUESS WHO!

GUESS WHAT: Recklessness and wanton disregard for others' safety are hallmarks of this major player in the public transportation industry. My source, who is an avid cyclist, had a near-death experience with one of the buses of the bus company, which specializes in metropolitan routes. One weekend, as s/he was cycling on the bicycle lane of a major thoroughfare, my source almost got sideswiped by one of the buses of this transportation company. S/he was lucky to have avoided the mishap that was almost caused by the moronic driver whose major crime was to drive through the bicycle lane. What put the boot in was that my source tried to contact the LTFRB and the bus company to file a complaint, but the lines were busy. From then on, my source would look at reckless drivers with much scorn and disdain. Nobody could blame him/her due to his/her reckless driving habits. Though the public bus company is well-renowned, this corporation has a godforsaken reputation for poor customer service, vehicle maintenance, and enforcement of discipline among its personnel.

What are the morals of the story? Driving is a great responsibility especially for those who consider it their bread and butter. NEVER EVER (emphasis mine) put others' lives at stake, especially pedestrians, cyclists, and other drivers. Third, see to it that no lives are lost and no limbs are broken.

GUESS WHO: Who is this punctilious and sanctimonious long-time professor of a major HEI who loves power tripping? According to my source, who is a professional teacher, our subject was tasked to observe my source as the latter went about his/her teaching. In the middle of a discussion, the long-time professor had the gall to correct the new teacher (of the HEI) about the lesson and was curt. In fairness to my source, s/he was respectful and kind to our subject. Other unforgivable, hell-raising peccadillos of our subject include shaming new teachers who are better than him/her, not being cordial with new teachers, and talking behind others' backs.

My source lasted for only one semester as a teacher of the HEI where our subject is still working. In fairness to my source, s/he has moved on from the shameful episode s/he experienced, brought about by the professor, who has insecurities of his/her own. Harking back to the past, our subject had a quite lackluster performance at his/her alma mater not as a student but as an instructor. As a result, our subject has turned into a vituperative victimizer of hapless hopefuls in the field of education.

What are the morals of the story? Never ever put a new teacher to shame. Fix the resting crone face that gives many the creeps. Power tripping can cause you to pay for your sins in hell (if you do not repent from your major trespasses just like any miscreant).

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If you have suggestions in terms of the education-related topics that you want me to feature, please feel free to send me an email to edteo.ramos@yahoo.com or to coachjet.inspirations@gmail.com and I will reply to you as soon as I receive your email.

## Word Alive.....(page 2)

Visayas and southern Mindanao, bringing untold death, sufferings and devastation.

"Why does a good and loving God allow this to happen?" some ask in disbelief. It's difficult to fathom; however, we should remember that such calamities do happen as part and parcel of the suffering in this "valley of tears" called Earth.

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Despite all this, let's not give up hope. Even Jesus Christ suffered worse than what we experience. On the cross, he cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When the Jews turned their backs on Jesus because they could not stomach his teachings on giving his Body as food and Blood as drink, he said to his disciples, "Do you also want to go?" Peter declared, "Lord, to whom do we go? You have the words of eternal life and we have come to believe that you are the

Son of God."

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When adversities and sufferings threaten us to despair, let's cling on to our faith. However, let's not forget to do our part in solving our problems. Remember the saying, "Nasa Diyos ang awa, nasa tao ang gawa." In English, "God helps those who help themselves."

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**S U P P O R T SEMINARIANS .** Seminarians are returning from their semestral break for enrollment. May I appeal for help since some parents are financially hard-up due to the COVID-19 pandemic aggravated by the Omicron variant.

Seminarians are very important since they are our future priests, missionaries, and bishops.

Donate any amount or sponsor a seminarian's schooling good for one year. For inquiry, e-mail me at: belsvd@gmail.com.

## ILOCOS SUR

## COMELEC Ilocos Sur to multiply voting centers for 2022 polls

VIGAN CITY, Jan. 19 (PIA) – The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Ilocos Sur will be multiplying the polling precincts for the upcoming 2022 National and Local Elections.

In an interview with Lawyer Ericson Oganiza, the Provincial Election Supervisor of COMELEC Ilocos Sur, he shared that they have requested through their election officers for each barangay in the province to house voting centers.

“We will decongest the polling places in order to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), and for particular barangays to have their own voting centers,” Oganiza said.

He said that there are public buildings or structures in barangays that can be used as polling precincts which is why those who previously had

to go to other barangays for the polls will be delegated to their own barangays for this year’s election.

Due to this, according to him, the COMELEC has increased the slots for board of election inspectors or electoral boards, because they need more people to serve for the upcoming polls.

“Since the passage of the Election Service Reform Act that removed the mandatory service of public school teachers, we are now recruiting individuals who are qualified and willing,” said Atty. Oganiza.

COMELEC prefers those who are skilled in technical matters and with due respect to the senior citizens, as Oganiza explained, they prioritize individuals below 60 years old to protect them from the risk of contracting COVID-19.

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## ILOCOS SUR

## Ilocos towns enact ‘No vax, No entry policy’

VIGAN CITY, Jan. 19 (PIA) – The local government unit (LGU) of Santa Cruz, Ilocos Sur is imposing a “no vaccine, no entry” policy barring unvaccinated individuals from entering its public market.

Resolution No. 01-2022 of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases of Santa Cruz adopts this protocol to prevent or eradicate the COVID-19 cases and to strictly impose protocols to prevent entry of the Omicron variant in the municipality.

Said resolution was approved by Santa Cruz Mayor and Municipal IATF Chairperson Teresita Valle on January 7 and has been implemented since then.

Santa Cruz town has 35 active cases as of January 18 and since the pandemic started in 2020, the town has recorded 504 COVID-19 cases, of which 684 had recovered,

while 15 had died.

In Magsingal, Ilocos Sur, its local IATF is imposing the same protocol which started on Tuesday.

Magsingal Mayor Victoria Ina Favis’ Executive Order (EO) No. 11-2022 mandates the presentation of vaccination cards of all visiting entities at the public market and transactions made with the local government offices in their Municipal Hall.

“These proactive measures and restrictions must be put in place to slow down the surge in COVID-19 cases, stop further spread in variants, buy time for the health system to cope, and to protect more lives,” the EO stated.

As of Tuesday, Magsingal has recorded a total of 687 confirmed cases, 10 of these are active while 664 have recovered and 13 residents have died of the virus. (JOYAH MAE C. QUIMOYOGPIA Ilocos Sur)

## LA UNION

## La Union town reports first Omicron case

SAN FERNANDO CITY, Jan. 18 (PIA) -- The local government unit of Balaoan in La Union has reported its first case of Omicron variant.

Mayor Aleli Concepcion on Tuesday confirmed that the case whose address is in Patpata village is a fully vaccinated returning Overseas Filipino Worker from the United States of America.

“Today, January 18, 2022, we were informed by the Department of Health (DOH) that one case positive for the COVID-19 B.1.1.529 (Omicron) variant was listed in Balaoan, La Union,” Concepcion said.

The DOH added that the case is a 37-year-old male.

Prior to the flight, the patient tested negative for COVID-19 via RT-PCR test last December 16, 2021, but his symptoms occurred on the third day of his isolation in an identified facility in Manila, hence underwent another RT-PCR test result which came out positive.

On Jan. 2, the patient

was released from isolation with a negative antigen test result and after completing 14 days of isolation upon arrival in the country.

The patient travelled to Camilo Osias village in Balaoan on Jan. 5.

Under strict quarantine restrictions, the patient is said to have no known close contacts.

While Concepcion said that the patient was tagged as clinically recovered and was cleared by the Bureau of Quarantine after completing 14 days of isolation upon arrival in the country, the DOH said he still needs to undergo isolation based on protocols.

“As per Department Memo 2022-0013, asymptomatic case will be isolated for seven days if fully vaccinated and 10 days if unvaccinated,” Dr. Rheuel C. Bobis, COVID-19 focal of the DOH - Ilocos Center for Health Development, said.

With the rise in COVID-19 cases in their municipality, Concepcion

(Pls. turn to page 5)

## LA UNION

## COMELEC tags 2 La Union towns as initial election hotspots

SAN FERNANDO CITY, Jan. 17 (PIA) -- The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) initially identified the municipalities of Agoo and Balaoan as the election hotspots in La Union for the upcoming national elections on May 9, 2022.

Lawyer Joel J. Gines, La Union provincial election supervisor, said these towns were considered as the top areas of concern because of the histories of politics-related violence.

“Ang naipresenta para sa La Union ay Agoo at Balaoan although tahimik na ngayon pero ‘yung mga previous incidences ang naging basehan,” Gines said.

Former La Union 2nd District Representative Eufanio Eriguel was assassinated in the municipality of Agoo while an ambush incident killed former Balaoan

Vice Mayor Al-fred Concepcion, both in 2018.

Gines said that the COMELEC, along with the law enforcement units, are closely monitoring not only the reported initial hotspots but also the entire province to ensure a safe and orderly election period.

“Lahat naman ng areas ay binabantayan talaga natin dahil hindi naman natin masasabi kung safe nga ba talaga ang isang lugar,” he said.

C O M E L E C checkpoints were established beginning the nationwide simultaneous launching last Jan. 9.

Further, PCol. Jonathan G. Calixto, provincial director of the La Union Police Provincial Office, said police tactical groups were already deployed in addition across said areas of concern.

(Pls. turn to page 5)

## PANGASINAN

## Dagupan City reports first Omicron Variant Case

DAGUPAN CITY, Jan 18 (PIA) -- The City Government of Dagupan confirmed on Monday that the first case of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) Omicron variant has been monitored in the city.

According to the Public Information Office (PIO) of Dagupan City, the first omicron case in the city is a 48-year-old returning Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) from the United Kingdom.

The patient, who returned to the country on Dec. 21 last year, is a fully vaccinated individual who also received a booster shot abroad. PIO said the patient, who underwent a quarantine in a hotel in Angeles City, Pampanga, tested positive with the virus on Dec. 26 and has remained asymptomatic after the 10-day isolation.

On January 4, the patient went home in Dagupan City and underwent an antigen test that was non-reactive.

PIO added that upon coming to Dagupan City, the

returning OFW underwent home quarantine until January 9.

Dr. Ophelia Rivera, focal person of COVID-19 Task Force in Dagupan City, said the Department of Health (DOH) Center for Health Development in Region 1 informed the City Government of Dagupan on January 16 that the said patient was found positive with Omicron variant.

Rivera said the City Health Office is continuously doing a contact tracing even though there is no active case connecting to the recorded case of the Omicron variant.

She said the patient’s immediate family who are first generation contacts are scheduled to undergo RT-PCR.

As of 9 p.m. of January 17, Dagupan City recorded 64 new confirmed cases, 21 recoveries, and zero new death cases. Total active cases in the city are now numbered at 572 while total recoveries are now at 5,323. (Elsha Marie B. Arguel /PIA Pangasinan)

## LA UNION

## Primewater, pinulong ni Mayor Dong upang iresolba ang problema sa water supply sa siyudad

SAN FERNANDO CITY, La Union -- Dahil sa patuloy na hinaing ng mga residenteng apektado sa serbisyo ng Primewater Metro, nakipagpulong si Manong Dong sa mga kawani ng kumpanya para sa pagresolba ng matagal nang problema sa water supply ng ilang barangay sa siyudad.

B i n i g y a n g - d i n sa pagpupulong na dapat magkaroon ng interbensyon sa kanilang serbisyo ang kumpanya ‘pagkat marami pa rin ang problemang kanilang sosolusyonan, kabilang dito ang pagpapalit nila ng lumang mga tubo noong nagdaang taon.

Dagdag pa rito, hiniling ni Manong Dong na huwag nang pagbayarin ang mga residenteng walang naitalang pagkonsumo ng tubig.

## PGIN.....(page 3)

aid and support training. The “Search for the Best Mental Health Practices in Ilocos Norte” will likewise “underscore a whole-of-community approach to promote, protect, and care for mental health,” Gov. Marcos Manotoc explained.

Inutos rin ang kanilang agarang pag-aksyon upang maibigay sa lahat ang serbisyonang nararapat at katumbas ng kanilang binabayaran.

M a a l a l a n g ipinangako nila noong Enero ng 2021 na pagbutihin ang kanilang water service sa publiko. Bukod pa rito, hihigpitan din ng City Government ang pagsubaybay sa progreso ng Primewater Metro patungkol dito.

Kasama rin sa pagpupulong sina Ms. Lily Ann Colisao mula sa City Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Councilor and Chair Committee on Water Hon. Quintin Balcita, kinatawan ng complainant-residents, at ilang opisyaales ng City Hall. (CGSF)

To bolster preventive healthcare, PGIN set up new public parks in different LGUs, including many barangay eco-parks with village farms, by giving P200,000 funds to each barangay. (Edison Justin B. Deus, PGIN-CMO)

RA Form No. 10.1 (LCRO)  
Republic of the Philippines  
Local Civil Registry Office  
Province of Ilocos Norte  
Municipality of Piddig

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In compliance with Section 5 of R.A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **AMANTE RAFAEL** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **FRANCISCO ATAMANTE** to **AMANTE** in the certificate of live birth of **FRANCISCO ATAMANTE RAFAEL** who was born on **October 11, 1955** at **Piddig, Ilocos Norte** and whose parents are **xxxx** and **Juliana Rafael**.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 30, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **ROSALINDA E. JOSE**  
Municipal Civil Registrar

January 17-23, 2022  
& January 24-30, 2022\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

Republic of the Philippines  
**Office of the City Civil Registrar**  
Ilocos Norte  
Laoag City

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9048, notice is hereby served to the public that **ANGELINE CASTRO** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **“ARLENE EUSTOLIA”** to **“ARLENE”** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **ARLENE EUSTOLIA R. SALES** who was born on November 09, 1956 at Laoag City, Ilocos Norte and whose parents are Benjamin Sales and Concepcion Raña.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 31, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **JEAN PASCUA MANUEL**  
City Civil Registrar

January 17-23 2022  
& January 24-30\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

Republic of the Philippines  
**Office of the City Civil Registrar**  
Ilocos Norte  
Laoag City

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9048, notice is hereby served to the public that **JUDY MATIAS ADRIANO** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **“JUDY CRISPINA”** to **“JUDY”** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **JUDY CRISPINA M. ADRIANO** who was born on December 05, 1968 at Laoag City, Ilocos Norte and whose parents are Eusebio Adriano and Encarnacion Matias.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 31, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **JEAN PASCUA MANUEL**  
City Civil Registrar

January 17-23 2022  
& January 24-30\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

Republic of the Philippines  
**Office of the City Civil Registrar**  
Ilocos Norte  
Laoag City

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9048, notice is hereby served to the public that **FEMIA CALACSAN DAGUNA** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **“FE”** to **“FEMIA”** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **FE JUAN CALACSAN** who was born on January 28, 1960 at Camalaniugan, Cagayan and whose parents are Alipio Calacsan and Adriana Juan.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 31, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **JEAN PASCUA MANUEL**  
City Civil Registrar

January 17-23 2022  
& January 24-30\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

Republic of the Philippines  
**Office of the City Civil Registrar**  
Ilocos Norte  
Laoag City

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9048, notice is hereby served to the public that **DONATO UBAY QUINTOS** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **“DONATO MARCELO MARCIELLI”** to **“DONATO”** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **DONATO MARCELO MARCIELLI QUINTOS** who was born on April 2, 1963 at Laoag City, Ilocos Norte and whose parents are Marcelo Quintos and Josefina Ubay.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 31, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **JEAN PASCUA MANUEL**  
City Civil Registrar

January 17-23 2022  
& January 24-30\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

Republic of the Philippines  
**Office of the City Civil Registrar**  
Ilocos Norte  
Laoag City

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9048, notice is hereby served to the public that **ANTONIO VALMONTE FREZ** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **“NANCY”** to **“LUCY AGNES”** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **NANCY AGNES FREZ** who was born on January 27, 1966 at Laoag City, Ilocos Norte and whose parents are Teodoro Frez and Maria Valmonte.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 31, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **JEAN PASCUA MANUEL**  
City Civil Registrar

January 17-23 2022  
& January 24-30\* *Ilocos Sentinel*



is **PhilGeps** registered  
(Platinum Membership)

**La Union.....(page 4)**

urged her constituents to be more vigilant against the dreadful virus.

“The remaining number of Omicron variant cases in the municipality are still undetected. However, the sharp increase of cases we are now experiencing in Balaoan is very characteristic of this variant,” she said.

Nonetheless, she urged her constituents to keep their guards up and to continue practicing the minimum public health protocols such as wearing of face masks, social distancing, frequent hand sanitization, staying in well-ventilated areas, and avoiding social gatherings and crowded areas.

Moreover, Concepcion encouraged the residents to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and get both the primary and booster doses at the Municipal Health Office.

“According to WHO, currently available vaccines still offer significant protection against severe disease and death from Omicron and other variants of concern,” she said.

As of 10 p.m. on Jan. 17, Balaan reported 10 new cases of COVID-19.

In total, the town has 652 confirmed cases wherein 563 are recoveries, 49 active cases, and 40 deaths. (*Joanne Namnama P. Dilim, PIA La Union*)

Republic of the Philippines  
**Office of the City Civil Registrar**  
Ilocos Norte  
Laoag City

**NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION**

In Compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9048, notice is hereby served to the public that **FLORAMANTE BAGAOISAN BLAS** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **“FLORAMANTE EUSEBIO”** to **“FLORAMANTE”** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **FLORAMANTE EUSEBIO B. BLAS** who was born on August 21, 1962 at Laoag City, Ilocos Norte and whose parents are Joserizal Blas and Flora Bagaoisan.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 31, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **JEAN PASCUA MANUEL**  
City Civil Registrar

January 17-23 2022  
& January 24-30\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

**P1B Marcos.....(page 1)**

billion Marcos stadium sports complex, the stadium’s new features include a training center, stage platform, enclosed tennis court, players sheds, movable bleachers, and refurbished comfort rooms, the governor said.

Manotoc said that the stadium is undergoing major renovation since 2019.

When completed, it will have bigger and wider spaces for all sports activities and special public gatherings.

“We hope to inaugurate the Marcos Stadium by the middle part of this year,” said Manotoc citing it as an exercise hub for all.

As a rehabilitated (IS)

**READ AND ADVERTISE**

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**COMELEC Ilocos Sur.....(page 4)**

He also shared that the election officers have posted the recruitment notice for electoral boards on their Facebook pages and added that they will also be hiring medical personnel to supervise those who have body temperature higher than the normal 37.5 degrees Celsius.

Atty. Oganiza stated, “Those voters will still exercise their right to cast their vote before they go home, but they will be ushered to an isolation precinct that’s why we need more personnel.”

Meanwhile, the

COMELEC, along with the Philippine National Police, has started conducting checkpoints in observance of the election period from January 9 to June 8, 2022, where a gun ban is also implemented.

The provincial election officer reminded voters to comply with the minimum health protocols and emphasized that they must not waste their chance to carefully choose the leaders who will be serving for the next few years. (*AILA T. VILLANUEVA /PIA Ilocos Sur*)

**COMELEC.....(page 4)**

“Nag-deploy din po tayo ng tactical units na magbantay para maiwasan po ang gulo sa mga nabanggit na lugar,” he said.

As of this writing, the province is generally peaceful, according to Calixto. (*Caren Grace R. Cabanayan/PIA La Union*)

## DILG warns public vs. "COVID vax exemption cards:" No such thing!

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) today warned the public against so-called "COVID-19 vaccination exemption cards" that can allegedly be used by unvaccinated individuals to be exempted from stay at home orders, ride public transportation, and enjoy other privileges.

"The public is warned that there is no such thing as a "vaccination exemption card." This is not authorized, issued, nor recognized by the government. In other words, these are fake," said DILG Undersecretary and Spokesperson Jonathan Malaya.

He said that according to reports received by the

Department, the "exemption cards" which supposedly originated in Facebook groups and group chats in Regions 11 and 12 can allegedly be registered to local government units (LGUs) and are supposedly recognized by local authorities in lieu of COVID-19 vaccination cards.

Malaya said the government will never issue nor recognize such cards because this runs counter to the government's national vaccination program to inoculate the majority of the populace to achieve population protection.

"Malaking kalokohan ito. Hinding-hindi mag-iisyu ng exemption ang pamahalaan kanino man (Maliban na lang for medical reasons) dahil ang gusto nga natin ay

mabakunahan na ang lahat bilang proteksyon laban sa iba't ibang COVID-19 variants," he said.

He expressed dismay that some people will resort to such gimmicks and disinformation so that they will be exempted from vaccination and even dupe others into believing that they can be exempted from vaccination.

"Nakakagalit na ayaw na nga nating magpabakuna ay pinapaniwala pa natin ang iba na puwede silang ma-exempt. Marami na pong nabiktima at namatay sa COVID-19. Ang bakuna ang nakasalba sa maraming tao sa mundo," he added.

According to reports received by the DILG, people are being asked to put their name, birthdate, address, and signatures to the green vaccination

exemption card being shared in FB groups and group chats, have the cards printed, laminated, and registered to their barangay/city/municipal LGUs.

"The so-called exemption cards look similar to the green COVID-19 Vaccination Cards being issued by several LGUs. Sa biglang tingin aakalain itong tunay dahil pareho ng kulay, format at hitsura," he said.

"Nananawagan tayo sa publiko na huwag magpapaniwala sa mga taong nagpapakalat ng "COVID-19 vax exemption cards." Wala pong gano'n at peke po iyon. Agad magreport sa mga awtoridad kung merong ganitong insidente sa inyong mga lugar," he said.

(Pls. turn to page 7)

RA Form No. 10.1 (LCRO)  
Republic of the Philippines  
Local Civil Registry Office  
Province of Ilocos Norte  
Municipality of Dingras

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of R. A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **GENE B. SORIANO** has filed with this Office a petition for Change of First Name in his Birth Certificate from "**SIMPLICIO**" to "**GENE**", born on **March 2, 1949** at **Dingras, Ilocos Norte** unto parents **Roman Soriano** and **Ponciana Batinga**.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 30, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **ELIZA B. ATIENZA**  
Municipal Civil Registrar

January 17-23, 2022  
& January 24-30, 2022\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

RA Form No. 10.1 (LCRO)  
Republic of the Philippines  
Local Civil Registry Office  
Province of Ilocos Norte  
Municipality of Dingras

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of R. A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **NENITA PORTELA-TAPOAN** has filed with this Office a petition for Change of First Name in her Birth Certificate from "**ERLITA**" to "**NENITA**", born on **August 20, 1952** at **Dingras, Ilocos Norte** unto parents **Ponciano Portela** and **Paula Mangibunong**.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **January 30, 2022**.

(Sgd.) **ELIZA B. ATIENZA**  
Municipal Civil Registrar

January 17-23, 2022  
& January 24-30, 2022\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

### DEED OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AND ABSOLUTE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased SPOUSES ISABELO BALAIS and MAGDALENA BALAIS pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 37565-G, Psd-01-065731 being a portion of Lot 37565, Cad. 195, situated in the Brgy. Calayab (Balacad before), City of Laoag, covered by T.C.T. No. 38414 has been adjudicated by their legal heirs Melanie B. Pedro, Connie B. Pineda and Editha B. Valinton and simultaneously sold unto Erwin B. Pineda as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Juan Conrado A. Respicio II; Doc. No. 465; Page No. 93; Book No. DCXXX; Series of 2022.

Jan. 17, 24 & 31, 2022\* *Ilocos Sentinel*

## Cimatu lauds PH win in international wildlife conference

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu has lauded the Philippine delegation for winning the "Most Useful Project Resources Award" at the Global Wildlife Programme (GWP) Annual Conference held virtually on November 30-December 2, 2021.

During the conference, Team Philippines presented seven video clips and nine text documents about wildlife, and bested 36 projects in 31 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

With the theme "Working Together for Wildlife Conservation," the 2021 GWP Annual Conference focused on successfully collaborating, engaging, and empowering stakeholders to support wildlife conservation and sustainable local livelihoods.

The GWP is a World Bank-led, Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded global partnership that seeks to reduce both the supply and demand that drives the illegal wildlife trade or IWT through various country projects and a broader global project.

"We will leave no stone unturned in

our pursuit of illegal poachers, traders, and buyers. We will find and arrest the large-scale syndicates, the middlemen, the financiers, the 'illegal wildlife lords,'" Cimatu said.

The DENR chief also said that the materials are produced "to encourage the audience to spread awareness about illegal wildlife trade and inspire them to partner with the agency in protecting, conserving, and managing our country's resources for the present and future generations."

"We are proud to share to a wider audience the fruits of our hard work and labor of love from the DENR-Asian Development Bank/GEF Project on Combating Environmental Organized Crime in the Philippines," he added.

Held during the three-day annual GWP Conference, the contest aims to showcase lessons learned, good practices, innovations, and success stories through the knowledge products that they have developed, and to share them with other countries who might find it useful to the work that they do.

The partner countries presented samples of their knowledge products and resources to the

organizing team.

The GWP Team, in turn, uploaded the materials in "HowSpace," a digital collaboration platform open to all conference participants.

At the end of the event, all the conference participants voted for the country with the "Most Useful Project Resources," among other awards.

The award was part of a series of mini-competitions that included "Best Knowledge Market Pitch," "Best Overall Knowledge Share/Need," "Most Useful Project Resources," and "Best HowSpace Collaboration."

Team Philippines was also nominated in the "Best Knowledge Market Pitch" category and was represented by Atty. Theresa Tenazas, OIC-Chief of the Wildlife Resources Division of the DENR's Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB).

For its prize, the GWP Team will co-design a webinar with Team Philippines.

The DENR-ADB/GEF Project or IWT Project is a three-year initiative managed by the DENR-ADB-GEF on the ground.

The DENR-BMB acts as the executing agency

of this project and is also tasked to set the strategic direction and lead implementation.

The bureau is also given enforcement functions through the Wildlife Resource Division and the Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade or Task Force POGI, which is now under the Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service.

The IWT Project is also a component of an ADB Regional Knowledge Support Technical Assistance on Protecting and Investing in Natural Capital in Asia and the Pacific and a support project under the GWP.

It aims to combat environmental organized crime in the Philippines through legal and institutional reforms, capacity building in the full law enforcement chain, and reduction of demand for illegal wildlife and wildlife parts and derivatives.

The knowledge products, consisting of seven video clips and nine text documents, can be accessed at DENR-BMB's eLibrary <https://bit.ly/3ymfzrI>. The videos can also be viewed at DENR-BMB's YouTube Channel. ###

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**DEED OF ADJUDICATION WITH ABSOLUTE SALE**

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased PAULINA GALLARDO-PERALTA pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 17198, Cad-195, situated in the Barrio Vira, Municipality of Laoag (now Laoag City), covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-218 has been adjudicated by her legal heir Irene G. Peralta Smith and simultaneously sold unto Melchora C. Lorenzo as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Marcelino M. Quitoras, Jr.; Doc. No. 58; Page No. 06; Book No. CXXLI; Series of 2016.

*Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

**AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION OF SOLE HEIR**

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased BONIFACIO NAIDAS pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 6401, situated at Brgy. Capangdanan, Pinili, Ilocos Norte, covered by Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-15954 has been adjudicated by his legal heir Jose Naidas as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Pia Maria Barbara Mirca C. Cua; Doc. No. 206; Page No. 43; Book No. IV; Series of 2020.

*Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

Republic of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL AND CITY SHERIFF  
Marcos Hall of Justice  
Laoag City

SAN JOAQUIN MULTI-PURPOSE  
COOPERATIVE,  
Mortgagee,

-versus-

ELMER R. ESPIRITU,  
Mortgagor.

Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage

**EJF No. 27-2021**

X-----X

**NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE**

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended filed by the San Joaquin Multi-Purpose Cooperative with principal office and place of business at Brgy. 1, San Joaquin, Sarrat, Ilocos Norte, against Elmer R. Espiritu, with postal address at Brgy. 3, San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of November 15, 2021, the outstanding obligation exclusive of accrued interests and penalty, amounts to Three Hundred Sixty-two Thousand One Hundred Eighty-four Pesos and (8/100) (P362,184.08), Philippine Currency plus the stipulated interest, penalty, attorney's fees and other charges and the expenses of this foreclosure, the undersigned or his duly authorized deputy will sell at public auction on February 22, 2022 at 9:00 to 11:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the entrance of the Municipal Hall of Vintar, Ilocos Norte, to the highest bidder, for cash and in Philippine Currency, the real property together with all improvements found thereon, to wit:

**"Tax Declaration No. 14-0009-02866  
Certificate of Title No. OCT No. P-84566  
Cadastral Lot Number 35063**

A parcel of land situated at Brgy. 28, Bago, Vintar, Ilocos Norte. Bounded on the East, along line 1-2 by Lot 35062, Cad-577-D; on the South along line 2-3 by Creek; and on the West and North, along lines 3-4-1 by Lot 35064, Cad-577-D. Containing an area of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SIX (2,506) SQUARE METERS more or less, with a total market value of 65,310 and total assessed value of 14,920 for the current year.

Residential House erected on Lot No. 35063 covered by Tax Declaration No. 14-0009-00172, containing an area of 130 square meters more or less, with a market value of 481,000.00 and assessed value of 96,200.00.

This document shall be registered under Act 496 as amended."

Prospective buyers may investigate for themselves the property hereunder above-described and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

In the event the public auction shall not take place on this said date, it shall be held on **March 1, 2022** without further notice.

Laoag City, December 20, 2021.

ZALDY P. DE LA CRUZ  
Provincial and City Sheriff Ex-Officio

By:

(Sgd.) JUSTINIANO D. RILLERA, JR.  
Sheriff-in-charge  
RTC, Branch 11, Laoag City

Copy furnished:

1. The Manager  
San Joaquin Multi-Purpose Cooperative  
Brgy. 1, San Joaquin, Sarrat, Ilocos Norte
2. Elmer R. Espiritu  
Brgy. 3, San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte

*January 10, 17 & 24, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

**Batac.....(back page)**

cases inside the hospital as numbers keep rising".  
Ilocos Norte's census keeps Based on latest  
increasing as a result of the COVID-19 daily bulletin,  
the latest surge due to COVID the hospital has a total of 111  
variants. admissions at the Isolation

The main hospital Rooms - eighty three (83)  
had already converted 170 are confirmed, twenty four  
(36%) of its implementing (24) are suspect cases and  
dedicated beds. With this, Dr. four (4) probable cases.  
Maria Lourdes Otayza, the As of January 21,  
Medical Center Chief, said the hospital management  
"We will need to transfer out transferees to the 32-bed  
stable non COVID-19 cases field hospital 3. - (Clentroy  
to make room for more if the *Vicka Guzman*)

**DEED OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT**

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased MELCA P. MORALES consisting of five (5) parcels of land designated as Lot Nos. 1003-A, 1003-C, 1003-E-1, 1003-E-3 and 4380-B, all situated at Brgy. Poblacion, Burgos, Ilocos Norte, covered by Transfer Certificate of Title Nos. T-20270, 20270, T-20530, T-20530 and T-23477 has been extrajudicially settled among her heirs as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Luciano R. Caraang; Doc. No. 298; Page No. 60; Book No. CLXXXVII; Series of 2021.

*Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

**DEED OF ADJUDICATION AND ABSOLUTE SALE**

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased JUSTO ALCARAZ pertaining to a portion of a parcel of land (particularly the extent of the interest of deceased heir JUANITO ALCARAZ) designated as Lot No. 954-P, CAD 577-D, situated at Brgy. 1, San Roque, Vintar, Ilocos Norte, covered by Tax Declaration No. 14-0004-00447 has been adjudicated by his legal heirs and simultaneously sold that aforesaid portion of said lot equivalent to 450 sq. m. unto PATRICIO C. AGRIAM as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Carlos M. Carlos for Parañaque City; Doc. No. 318; Page No. 65; Book No. XCI; Series of 2021.

*Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

**DEED OF ADJUDICATION**

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased HECTOR COLOMA CORPUZ pertaining to HIS SHARE over a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 13994-B, situated in Brgy. 29, Sto. Tomas, CAD 195, covered by TCT No. 021-2012000688 has been adjudicated by his legal heirs Gloria Marie Ann Bareng Corpuz and Princess Cialymar Bareng Corpuz as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Candida Dorothy Swerte D. Bumanglag; Doc. No. 113; Page No. 24; Book No. IX; Series of 2021.

*Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

**DEED OF ADJUDICATION AND ABSOLUTE SALE**

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased JUSTO ALCARAZ pertaining to a portion of a parcel of land (particularly the extent of the interest of deceased heir AUROLING ALCARAZ) designated as Lot No. 954-P, CAD 577-D, situated at Brgy. 1, San Roque, Vintar, Ilocos Norte, covered by Tax Declaration No. 14-0004-00447 has been adjudicated by his legal heirs and simultaneously sold that aforesaid portion of said lot equivalent to 450 sq. m. unto CRISTINA AGRIAM TADENA, BERNADETTE AGRIAM DANCEL, ROBERT AGTANG AGRIAM and MARGIE AGTANG AGRIAM as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Carlos M. Carlos for Parañaque City; Doc. No. 316; Page No. 65; Book No. XCI; Series of 2021.

*Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

**DEED OF ADJUDICATION**

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased ROLEX R. DANCEL pertaining to HIS SHARE over a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 13994-B, situated in Brgy. 29, Sto. Tomas, CAD 195, covered by TCT No. 021-2012000688 has been adjudicated by his legal heirs Merlie Bareng Dancel, Don Ceazar Ryan Bareng Dancel, Robert John Nicole Bareng Dancel and Melvrick Roy Bareng Dancel as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Candida Dorothy Swerte D. Bumanglag; Doc. No. 52; Page No. 12; Book No. IX; Series of 2021.

*Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel*

**DEED OF IDENTIFICATION OF HEIRS WITH DONATION**

Notice is hereby given that MELECIO SABADO AGTARAP, who died intestate on November 26, 1988, is the registered owner of a parcel designated as as Lot 2, Pso-208357 (now Cadastral Lot No. 12812), situated in Brgy. Alejo Malasig, Vintar, Ilocos Norte, covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-3596; that Joseph Abad Agtarap, Edmund Agpaoa Agtarap, Joffrey Agtarap Agcaoil, Aurora Agustin-Agtarap and Antonio Agustin Agtarap have identify themselves as legal heirs of deceased Melecio Sabado Agtarap; that the legal heirs has simultaneously donated a portion of said lot particularly Lot 2-A equivalent to 350 sq. m. unto Maribel A. De Leon; Lot 2-B equivalent to 224 sq. m. unto Laniper A. Aguinaldo; Lot 2-C equivalent to 229 sq. m. unto Joseph Bongbong Agtarap; Lot 2-E equivalent to 267 sq. m. unto Benigno Agtarap; Lot 2-F equivalent to 267 sq. m. unto Joseph Abad Agtarap; Lot 2-G equivalent to 267 sq. m. unto Mary Ann Angelo; Lot 2-H equivalent to 267 sq. m. unto Jane A. Bacong; Lot 2-I equivalent to 267 sq. m. unto Nora Vilma A. Agpaoa; and Lot 2-J equivalent to 267 sq. m. unto Josephine Tagala, who all accepted the donation, as per legal instrument executed by themselves before Notary Public Atty. Mona Liza Domingo Antonio; Doc. No. 207; Page No. 42; Book No. XLIII; Series of 2021.

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**DILG warns.....(page 6)**

He also called on local authorities to be more vigilant in their inspection of vaccination cards at provincial and regional borders to ensure that only those who had been vaccinated will be allowed to travel across borders or be allowed to use public transportation.  
"Magiging mabusisi po tayo sa pag-iinspeksyon dahil baka nalulusutan tayo ng mga hindi pa nababakunahan. Ang paghihigpit natin ay para na rin sa kanilang proteksyon at kapakanan dahil wala silang kalababalan sa COVID-19," he said.  
Meanwhile, Año urged LGUs to recognize

both the LGU-issued vaccination card and the DOH-issued VaxCertPH digital certificate, whichever is available during inspections by law enforcement or Barangay officials.  
Per Department of Health (DOH) and National Task Force Against COVID-19 Joint Administrative Order No. 2021-0001, a standardized COVID-19 vaccine card shall be issued to vaccine recipients to ensure completion of the required doses by documenting details of their vaccination subject to the provisions of RA 10173 or the "Data Privacy Act of 2012."



DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased spouses EUGENIA RIGONAN-URANI and CORNELIO URANI pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 941-B, situated at Brgy. 8 Iloilo (now Acosta), Batac City, Ilocos Norte, covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 023-T-1711 has been extrajudicially settled among their heirs CRISPIN NALUNDASAN, MAGDALENA URANI REBOLLEDON and FLORENTE U. NALUNDASAN and simultaneously waived in favor of LUZVIMINDA RIGONAN ORANI as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Yvette N. Convento-Leynes; Doc. No. 500; Page No. 50; Book No. 117; Series of 2019; that the aforesaid Deed of Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate with Waiver of Rights was the subject of Acknowledgement in separate instruments executed by co-heir ARLINE DAIGDIGAN SANTOS before Notary Public Atty. Yvette N. Convento-Leynes as per Doc. No. 71; Page No. 8; Book No. 118; Series of 2019; and by donee LUZVIMINDA RIGONAN ORANI, who accepted the said donation, before Notary Public Atty. Yvette N. Convento-Leynes; Doc. No. 1; Page No. 1; Book No. 118; Series of 2019.

Jan. 10, 17 & 24, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

DEED OF IDENTIFICATION OF HEIRS

Notice is hereby given that MELECIO SABADO AGTARAP, who died intestate on November 26, 1988, is the registered owner of a parcel designated as Lot 3, Psu-208357 (now Cadastral Lot No. 12695), situated in Brgy. 7 Alejo Malasig, Vintar, Ilocos Norte, covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-3596; that Joseph Abad Agtarap, Edmund Agpaoa Agtarap, Joffrey Agtarap Agcaoil, Aurora Agustin-Agtarap and Antonio Agustin Agtarap have identify themselves as legal heirs of deceased Melecio Abad Agtarap as per legal instrument executed by themselves before Notary Public Atty. Mona Liza Domingo Antonio; Doc. No. 208; Page No. 42; Book No. XLIII; Series of 2021.

Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

DEED OF ADJUDICATION AND ABSOLUTE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased Spouses IGNACIO NICOLAS and BENILDA NICOLAS pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 13515, situated at Barrio San Mauricio, Laoag City, covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. (T-1669)-715 has been adjudicated by their legal heirs and simultaneously sold that aforesaid lot unto Spouses Cornelio R. Corpuz and Marilyn Melba M. Corpuz as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Althea Samantha A. Calvan; Doc. No. 440; Page No. 88; Book No. I; Series of 2021.

Jan. 10, 17 & 24, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

DEED OF ADJUDICATION with ABSOLUTE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased MARIA MANGLAL-LAN GUDOY pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 15690-C, situated at Brgy. 35 Billoca, Batac City, Ilocos Norte, covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-2786 has been adjudicated by their legal heir Domingo M. Gudoy and simultaneously sold that aforesaid lot unto Edwin B. Rabanal as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Maria Louise M. Que; Doc. No. 512; Page No. 104; Book No. 2; Series of 2022.

Jan. 10, 17 & 24, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

DEED OF ADJUDICATION WITH SALE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased PEDRO CABUTAJE pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 3376, Cad-445-D, situated at Brgy. Bacsil, Paoay, Ilocos Norte, covered by OCT No. P-29313 has been adjudicated by his legal heir CRESCENCIA C. ALEGADO and simultaneously sold unto ROSANA T. MAMUYAC as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. DA VINCI M. CRISOSTOMO; Doc. No. 301; Page No. 62; Book No. CDVIII; Series of 2020.

Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

RA Form No. 10.1 (LCRO) Republic of the Philippines Local Civil Registry Office Batac City, Ilocos Norte

Notice of Publication

CFN-0001-2022

In compliance with Section 5 of R. A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that FELY BUMANGLAG MARRIN has filed with this office a petition for Change of First Name from FELY BETTY to FELY in the Certificate of Live Birth of FELY BETTY BUMANGLAG who was born on 1-23-1964 at Batac, Ilocos Norte and whose parents are Florito Bumanglag and Magdalena Alcantara.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this office not later than January 23, 2022.

(Sgd.) LORLYN FLODELIZ P. ULIT City Civil Registrar

January 10-16, 2022 & January 17-23, 2022\* Ilocos Sentinel

RA Form No. 10.1 (LCRO) Republic of the Philippines Local Civil Registry Office Batac City, Ilocos Norte

Notice of Publication

CFN-0002-2022

In compliance with Section 5 of R. A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that GLYN SON QUE CUA has filed with this office a petition for Change of First Name from CRISTETA to ROSA in the Certificate of Live Birth of CRISTETA QUE who was born on October 27, 1949 at Batac, Ilocos Norte and whose parents are Carlos Que and Segunda Manglal-Ian.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this office not later than January 23, 2022.

(Sgd.) LORLYN FLODELIZ P. ULIT City Civil Registrar

January 10-16, 2022 & January 17-23, 2022\* Ilocos Sentinel

DEED OF ADJUDICATION AND SALE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased ISAIAS, CECILIA and ELENA, all surnamed CURAMMENG and SEFERINA CURAMMENG-JULIAN, pertaining to a parcel of land designated as Lot No. 10039, situated at Brgy. 15, Barrio of San Catalino, Municipality of Laoag (now Laoag City), has been adjudicated by their legal heirs and simultaneously sold that aforesaid lot unto Spouses FERDINAND AGENAS and NERLITA QUINOSA AGENAS as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Antonio R. Cajigal; Doc. No. 452; Page No. 92; Book No. XVII; Series of 2002.

Jan. 10, 17 & 24, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

DEED OF IDENTIFICATION OF HEIRS WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that MELECIO SABADO AGTARAP, who died intestate on November 26, 1988, is the registered owner of a parcel designated as Lot 1, Psu-208357 (now Cadastral Lot No. 12738), situated in Brgy. Alejo Malasig, Vintar, Ilocos Norte, covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-3596; that Joseph Abad Agtarap, Edmund Agpaoa Agtarap, Joffrey Agtarap Agcaoil, Aurora Agustin-Agtarap and Antonio Agustin Agtarap have identify themselves as legal heirs of deceased Melecio Abad Agtarap; that the legal heirs has simultaneously quitclaimed a portion of the aforesaid lot equivalent to 3,044 sq.m. (now referred as Lot 1-B) in favor Rizalina M. Jacinto as per legal instrument executed by themselves before Notary Public Atty. Mona Liza Domingo Antonio; Doc. No. 206; Page No. 42; Book No. XLIII; Series of 2021.

Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Regional Trial Court FIRST JUDICIAL REGION Branch 19 Bangui, Ilocos Norte

ORDER

Filed with this Court is an amended petition for the cancellation/correction of entries in the Birth Record of Daniel Tomas Agron.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the Court orders that the petition be set for hearing on February 16, 2022 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning before the Court in session at Bangui, Ilocos Norte, where the Court is holding sessions.

Let a copy of this Order be published once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Ilocos Norte so that all concerned may appear on or before the scheduled hearing and show cause, if any there be, why the petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of the petition with its annexes be furnished the Civil Registrar General, Manila, the Solicitor General of the Philippines, 134 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati, Metro Manila, the Provincial Prosecutor of Ilocos Norte and the Local Civil Registrar of Dumalneg, Ilocos Norte, counsel for the petitioner and the petitioner, for their information and guidance.

SO ORDERED.

Given in chambers on this 23rd day of December 2021 at Bangui, Ilocos Norte.

(Sgd.) FELIX G. SALVADOR Acting Presiding Judge

IN RE: PETITION FOR THE CANCELLATION/ CORRECTION OF ENTRIES IN THE BIRTH RECORD OF DANIEL TOMAS AGRON IN THE OFFICE OF THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF DUMALNEG, ILOCOS NORTE AND THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY, CIVIL REGISTRAR GENERAL, MANILA,

SPOUSES DANILO D. AGRON & MARITES TOMAS AGRON IN THEIR OWN BEHALF AND IN BEHALF OF DANIEL TOMAS AGRON Petitioners,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF DUMALNEG, ILOCOS NORTE AND THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY, CIVIL REGISTRAR GENERAL, MANILA, ET. AL., Respondents

SPEC. PROC. NO. 3057-19

X-----X

Jan. 3, 10 & 17, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

DEED OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATE OF THE DECEASED SPOUSES GENEROPO DULDULAO AND FILOMENA SANTIAGO

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased Spouses Generopo Duldulao and Filomena Santiago, pertaining to six (6) parcels of land designated as Lot Nos. 8011-A, 8011-B, 8011-C, 8011-D, 8011-E and 8011-F, all situated in the Barrio of But-tong, Laoag City, covered by TCT No. T-27958, TCT No. T-27959, TCT No. T-27960, TCT No. T-27961 TCT No. T-27962 and TCT No. T-27963 is the subject of DEED OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE ESTATE OF THE DECEASED SPOUSES GENEROPO DULDULAO AND FILOMENA SANTIAGO as per instrument executed before Notary Public Atty. Romeo R. Ramolete; Doc. No. 23; Page No. 6; Book No. 12; Series of 2022.

Jan. 10, 17 & 24, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH SIMULTANEOUS WAIVER

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of deceased ETHIEL A. DUQUEZ consisting of several real and personal properties namely: two (2) parcels of land designated as Lot No. 2 GSS-281, situated at Barrio Bayug-Bobon, Burgos, Ilocos Norte, covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 022-2020000249 and Lot No. 14333, CAD 738-D, situated at Barangay Saud (Caparispisan). Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte, covered by Original Certificate of Title No. P-81422; and five (5) bank deposits with several banks in Laoag City namely: Landbank with account no. 0261356899, Bank of Philippine Islands - Fonacier branch with USD Savings account no. 000594-0170-56 and Current Account no. 0590-0058-35; Banco De Oro (BDO) - Rizal St. branch with savings no. 000960048979 and Metrobank - bacarra road branch with savings account no. 528-7-52801390-9 is the subject of Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate with Simultaneous Waiver executed by her heirs before Notary Public Atty. Francisco A. Musni; Doc. No. 178; Page No. 37; Book No. CXXX; Series of 2021.

Jan. 10, 17 & 24, 2022\*Ilocos Sentinel





## SNNHS Ceramics Teachers spearhead proposal of POTTER'S WHEEL: A Mobile Ceramics Classroom

To rekindle the love, passion, and interest of every San Nicoleño in pottery-making, especially the Grades 9 and 10 students of San Nicolas National High School (SNNHS) who major in Damili as a Local Curriculum in their Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE) specialization and interested out-of-school-youths, the ceramics teachers of SNNHS proposed the project "POTTER'S WHEEL: A Mobile Ceramics Classroom" to continue learning the century-old industry and the preservation of the municipality's rich cultural heritage through mobile classrooms in this time of pandemic.

The seven ceramics teachers at SNNHS who led the project for the teaching and development of the art of pottery are Miss Crisanta A. Dumlao, Mrs. Princess Ann I. Narciso, Mr. Johnell D. Arzaga, Miss Princess Ann D. De Vera, Mr. Jayson D. Adena, Mr. Jefferson Y. Pre and Mr. Vincent Marcus C. Vedania. With the support of the school principal, Mrs. Eliza C. Vedania, and the Head Teacher III of Technology and



Livelihood Education, Mrs. Jennette Lea A. Sacro, and also of the Department of Education – Schools Division of Ilocos Norte, headed by the Schools Division Superintendent, Dr. Joann A. Corpuz, and the Education Program Supervisor in Technology and Livelihood Education, Mr. Arthur M. Llaguno. In partnership with the Local Government Unit of San Nicolas, headed by Mayor Dr. Alfredo P. Valdez, Jr.

It is proposed that the teachers will explain the different methods in hand-production techniques and will demonstrate and execute the different methods and processes in hand-production techniques for the implementation of the activity from November 2021 to May 2022.

The said activities will be started at 8 o'clock to 9:30 in the morning for the lecture; a demonstration of the methods and techniques will be held at 10:00 to 11:30 AM; a hands-on activity will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon; and the remaining one hour from 4:00 to 5:00 is allotted for the evaluation of the outputs.

The beneficiaries are divided into four clusters. Cluster 1 includes Barangays 1-6, Cluster 2 includes Barangays 7-12, Cluster 3 includes Barangays 15-22, and Cluster 4 includes Barangays 23 and 24.

Beneficiaries of the project are expected to create a variety of "damili" products such as earthenwares and

pottery wares that will show their creativity, perseverance, and hard work, as well as San Nicoleño values like industry, camaraderie, ingenuity, commitment, and a love and enthusiasm for cultural preservation.

Also, this project aims to preserve cultural heritage to be passed from generation to generation.

Furthermore, the said project is intended to be a source of income or a profitable business by promoting San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte's earthenware products not only in the municipality but throughout the Philippines.

## Tekno Presyensya 2022: DOST 1 gazes back at success and advances forward with iSTART

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), in collaboration with DZAG Radyo Pilipinas Agoo, started up the first episode of Tekno PreSyensya 2022: Syensya ken Teknolohiya para kadagiti Umili featuring the accomplishments DOST 1 for the Calendar Year 2021 and talking about the Innovation, Science and Technology for Accelerating Regional Technology-based Development (iSTART) program, on January 13, 2022, via Zoom and DOST 1 Facebook page.

The episode was attended by DOST 1 Regional Director Armando Q. Ganal, DOST-Provincial Science and Technology Center (PSTC) Pangasinan Provincial Director Arnold C. Santos, and representatives from the two (2) beneficiary Local Government Units (LGUs) of Pangasinan namely, LGU Balungao Municipal Agriculturist Officer Marilyn Lilagan, and LGU Alcala Municipal Planning Officer II Michelle Retoria.

Director Ganal highlighted the agency's accomplishments for the year 2021. He discussed the accomplishments of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) unit, RxBox Project, Scholarship unit, Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST), Regional Standards and Testing Laboratory (RSTL), Regional Metrology Laboratory (RML), Regional Project Management Office (RPMO), and Regional Science and Technology Promotion Program Center (RSTPPC). Director Ganal also gave an overview of the achievements of the 2021 National Science and Technology Week (NSTW) and Regional Invention Contests and Exhibits (RICE).

Director Ganal also discussed the iSTART program. He started on how it began through the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with

the Provincial Government of Pangasinan represented by Governor Amado T. Espino III. He then staged the accomplishments of the program in the six (6) pilot municipalities of Pangasinan.

The iSTART program aims to support the gains of Pangasinan in the different fronts of development through science, technology, and innovation (STI). Further, it will review existing plans and determine the development fronts, identify appropriate STI interventions in the various development fronts where necessary through sectoral groups, and package technology-based sectoral development plans.

The program which is currently being implemented in the six (6) local government units by the office of the Governor, as pilot municipalities, focuses on disaster resilience, alternative energy, livelihood and enterprise, business, and waste management.

Provincial Director Santos reported the program's varied outcomes in the towns of Balungao, Alcala, San Fabian, Malasiqui, Bugallon, and Sual. When asked about the program's timeline, he stated that the agreement will go until March, but that he is optimistic that the program will continue to benefit other LGUs in Pangasinan.

Ms. Lilagan and Ms. Retoria, representing the towns of Balungao and Alcala, respectively, expressed their gratitude to DOST 1 and explained how this program might benefit their communities. With the aid of iSTART, they hope to make even more improvements in their communities.

Director Ganal hailed the towns for their cooperation in the effective execution of iSTART and encouraged them to use the program's benefits for the improvement of their communities in his closing message. He also remarked that the region's efforts to enhance science, technology, and innovation are incessant. (Carla Joyce B, Cajala)

## San Nicolas gov't distributes multicabs to 24 barangays

The San Nicolas government has turned over one airconditioned multicab each to 24 barangays in the municipality.

Mayor Alfredo P. Valdez, Jr., who led the simple turnover rites at the town plaza on December 27, 2021, said that the acquisition of the multi-purpose vehicles was granted to village leaders to provide quality services to their constituents, most specially those who are in far-flung areas.

"Leading San Nicolas into a safe, peaceful and progressive town would

be difficult without the support of our dear barangay officials. So, it is just fitting to give them multicabs to help them deliver better services to the people in their communities," the chief executive said.

Fr. Danilo Devaras, parish priest of the Diocesan Shrine of San Nicolas de Tolentino, led the blessing of the utility vehicles which was witnessed by the members of the Sangguniang Bayan headed by Vice-Mayor Edistio P. Valdez, members of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), other employees concerned and

all the recipient village chiefs.

Punong Barangay Federico D. Simpliciano of Brgy. 16 San Marcos said that apart from using it as daily transport vehicle, the multicab will be of great help in times of emergency, disaster, peace and order situation,

relief distribution, among others.

According to MENRO head and BAC chairperson Marilyn U. Tolentino, the municipal government has allocated more than P18 million out of the CY 2021 supplemental budget for the project. (Story by Jerick Ribao)

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Acting Ilocos Norte Police Provincial Director PCol. Julius Suriben distributes grocery packs to selected indigent residents of Dumalneg, Ilocos Norte. (Photo courtesy of INPPO)

**Region 1's Bet places 5th in Nat'l CHED StuFAPs Scholar Award**

Roland R. Tuliao, on January 17, an alumnus of Mariano Marcos State University, placed 5th in the CHED Student Financial Assistance Programs (StuFAPs) Scholar Award: My Success Story National Level.

Margie G. Palactao from CAR won first place while Christian I. Lamud from Region V, Jeena A. Amoto from Region VI, and Arvin Jay G. Cordeta bagged the second, third, and fourth places respectively.

The announcement came from the Memorandum of the Office of the Executive Director No. 69, s. 2022

on January 17. The competition is a part of the "Padyak Parangal para sa mga CHED Iskolar" program of CHED which aimed to feature inspiring stories of scholars whose lives were changed by StuFAPs.

"Ako ay lubos na nagpapasalamat sa CHED dahil sila ang naging instrumento upang makapagsilbi ako sa aking kapwa at maiahon mula sa kahirapan ang aking pamilya," said Tuliao in his video.

The awarding of the Top 5 winners will be on February 10. (CHED Region 1)

**DOH Ilocos to deworm 1.9M children, teens in Nat'l Deworming Month**

The Department of Health Center for Health Development in the Ilocos Region (DOH-CHD-1) is targeting some 1.9 million children and teens aged one to 19 years old in Region 1 for its deworming activity to coincide with the National Deworming Month this January.

DOH-CHD-1 medical officer Dr. Rheuel Bobis said in a media interview, the deworming activity will be community-based due to the ongoing pandemic.

While the activity has been previously done in schools before the pandemic, the department has since coordinated with the barangay health workers, who are tasked to go to the target individuals and administer the Albendazole drug in dosages appropriate for the age of the recipients.

"The health care workers will go house-to-house to administer the drug. The deworming activity is done annually, every January and July, to prevent infection among the children and youth caused by a parasitic worm," he said.

As far as the supplies of the said drug, the DOH has already delivered the number of Albendazole doses to the Provincial Health Offices of the provinces in the region since last December.

Bobis said it is important to deworm children as parasitic worms have effects on their physical and mental health.

"There was a study saying that those with parasitic worms have lower intelligence quotient," he said. (IS)

**Batac school, now up as temporary field hospital of MMNHMC**

As the number of COVID-19 infections continues to rise in the province, the Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte, Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital and Medical Center (MMNHMC), City Government of Batac, and DepEd Batac joined hands in activating the Catalino Acosta Memorial Elementary School (CAMES) as temporary Field Hospital 3.

In just one day, these authorities swiftly transferred beddings, desk fans, chairs, tables, among other fixtures and set up nurse station for the purpose.

The Field Hospital 3 will accommodate stable non COVID-19 patients to increase the number of treatment space available for COVID-19 (Pls. turn to page 7)

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